MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Military Situation--Damascus radio quoted a Syrian military spokesman as saying Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) downed an Israeli drone overflying their positions in Lebanon. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, the plane was hit by fire from Al-Masna' and crashed in the western part of the Al-Biqa' valley. Jerusalem Radio cited an IDF spokesman as saying the drone crashed because of a technical problem. Reporting on the security situation in Beirut, the Voice of Lebanon said sniper fire has effectively closed the road linking eastern and western Beirut through Sodeco gate. Beirut radio reported that an Israeli commando unit clashed with Irish UNIFIL forces at dawn on 8 July while attempting to infiltrate a southern town. Jerusalem radio reported a clash between Irish troops and two gangs of armed men.

Phalangist-Israeli Relations--The Voice of Lebanon reported that after meeting with President Ilyas Sarkis, Phalangist leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said his party is willing to guarantee that it will have no relations with Israel in order to end the uproar over the issue, which opponents of the Phalangists have exploited in the recent fighting in eastern Lebanon. Asserting that his party's relations with Israel go no further than the purchase of arms for self-defense, Al-Jumayyil indicated that the Phalangists would only be willing to forego their own arms if other factions in Lebanon are disarmed as well. Calling for a discussion of the situation in southern Lebanon, "which we cannot tackle without dealing with the Palestinian problem," the Phalangist leader said his side wants an honest solution guaranteeing its sovereignty, liberty and dignity.

A Damascus radio commentary reiterated Syria's insistence that the Lebanese crisis cannot be solved without an end to Israeli-Phalangist relations, saying the establishment of security and accord in the Lebanese "house" is impossible if its "doors and windows" are open to the enemy. The radio said the last Arab followup committee meeting at Bayt ad-Din Palace failed to achieve the desired results because of the intransigence of the Phalangist "isolationist forces," who want to abort the followup committee's mission by making it view discussions with them as futile and who wish to exploit the time factor in order to strengthen their hand with the "Israeli backing they have been promised," awaiting a suitable opportunity to disrupt the security situation and implement their partition schemes. While Syria wants the next followup committee meeting to be successful, the radio said, it warns the Phalangists of the consequences of their continued failure to announce the termination of their dealings with Israel. Damascus radio also quoted ATH-THAWRAH as saying on 8 July that an end to the Israeli presence in Lebanon means the termination of Israeli contacts with "agents or Zionist spies present on certain Lebanese sides."

Habib Mission, SAM Missiles--The Syrian daily TISHRIN, reviewed by Damascus radio, said Syria's stand will not change during U.S. special envoy Philip Habib's forthcoming third tour of the region and asserted that if Habib has been successful in postponing a military conflict, his success has been achieved through influencing Israel's stand and not Syria's. According to SANA, AL-BA'TH said that Syria's SAM missiles will stay on Lebanese soil as long as Israel stays there and that Syria will reinforce these missiles with "various types of sophisticated arms" that will enable the Arabs to stand fast against Israel. According to Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister Menahem Begin's media adviser has denied a report carried by the major U.S. television networks that Begin has given 2 weeks to U.S. envoy Habib to settle the Syrian missile crisis before Israel destroys the missiles. The radio said the erroneous report stemmed from Begin's remarks that he was amazed that Habib was delaying his return to the Middle East for 2 weeks and that the U.S. envoy should not have adjourned his talks for such an extended period.

Multinational Peacekeeping Force

Jerusalem radio reported that Israeli Prime Minister Begin conferred with Michael Sterner, U.S. representative to the talks on the Sinai multinational force, on the draft agreement. According to the radio, all of the prime minister's requests for amendment of various clauses, particularly the one concerning the status of the multinational force and the possibilities of its removal, have been accepted. In a related report, Cairo radio said Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met with the U.S. ambassador to Cairo to discuss the formation of the peacekeeping force.

Iran

Musavi Interview--In an interview broadcast by Tehran radio, Foreign Minister Hoseyn Musavi said that in the past 2 years the post of foreign minister has been used as a means to gain power in the country and that consequently the Foreign Ministry is now disorganized. He said he will try to create a united and coordinated organization within the ministry. Musavi also said embassy staffs in Western countries will be reduced since Iran will be giving priority to Islamic, Middle East and oppressed countries.

Executions, Arrests--Tehran radio reported that nine people were executed in various cities for antigovernment activities. According to Shiraz radio, several Mojahedin-e Khalq and Peykar members were arrested for setting fire to a Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps vehicle, while seven others were sentenced to prison, having been charged with distributing subversive literature, carrying knives or taking part in clashes. Ahvaz radio said five Mojahedin-e Khalq members were arrested in Sarbandar.

REUTER Office Closed--In a statement broadcast by Tehran radio, the National Guidance Ministry announced that it has closed the REUTER office in Tehran. It said REUTER had dispatched biased and untrue reports on Iran more than 10 times in the past month and had not needed official warnings. The closure follows a strong attack by Tehran radio on BBC World Service coverage of the funeral of 72 Islamic Republican Party leaders and supporters killed in the 28 June bombing.

Iraq

In a statement to INA, an official Foreign Ministry spokesman has denied Israeli allegations that Brazil has supplied Iraq with uranium. The spokesman asserted that Israel is circulating such lies in order to divert public attention from its crimes against Iraq.

Jordan

In an interview with the BBC, King Husayn said Jordan's differences with the United States are "basic," stemming from the Palestinian issue and U.S. support for Israel. He asserted that discussion about the so-called Jordanian option is a waste of time, explaining that there is a Palestinian problem existing on Palestinian soil under Israeli occupation that cannot be solved without the Palestinians' participation and contribution to the establishment of peace. He expressed the opinion that Israeli Prime Minister Begin had exploited the Iraqi nuclear reactor incident for electoral advantage and that U.S. credibility in the Arab world was greatly affected by its reaction to the attack.

PDRY

Damascus radio reported that PDRU President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left Damascus at the end of a 1-day visit to Syria during which he held talks with President Hafaz al-Asad. In a predeparture statement cited by the radio, the PDRY leader said the two sides had agreed to strengthen cooperation and coordination among the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and their friendship with the communist bloc. He later returned to Aden, according to Aden radio.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON NEW POLICY

LD071523 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jul 81

[Unidentified correspondent's interview with Minister of Foreign Affairs Seyyed Hoseyn Musavi--date and place not given; recorded]

[Text] [Question] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Mr Musavi, [words indistinct] our Islamic revolution, because we have not had a committed and responsible minister of foreign affairs, this ministry has been under a great disadvantage regarding foreign policy. As minister of foreign affairs, as you start your work, what is your view on this?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In my opinion, during the past 2 years, it seems that the post of minister of foreign affairs, instead of being concerned with implementing a foreign policy which is active and in harmony with the plans and aims of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (?and) our Islamic revolution, was a means for gaining power inside the country. That is, it seems this post had been more of a means for political motivation inside the country. [sentence as heard] At the same time, if we look at the past generally, we can see that the slogans that the people chanted in connection with relations between the Islamic Republic and global blasphemy, the United States and other superpowers--slogans that came from the hearts of the people during marches--that is [word indistinct] of revolution, the foreign ministers of the past, were to a point (?generally) indifferent. It is for this reason that the "Neither Eastern, nor Western" policy of the Islamic Republic does not seem to have been (?deeply)--as the people felt with their [words indistinct] and shouted during their marches--understood or effective in our foreign policy. Slogans about global blasphemy and the fight against the United States were looked upon with indifference and even humor, until the occupation of the den of espionage. During the revolution, our people acquired the courage to confront the superpowers, look them in the eye, [words indistinct], act on their own accord. But, unfortunately, the minister of foreign affairs, as I pointed out, did not have the self-reliance that the masses had regarding the superpowers, which stemmed from [word indistinct] of the superpowers among the masses, and dealt (?hard blows) to our foreign policy and our relations with oppressed countries and oppressed nations.

[Question] Yes. How will you act in order to realize the slogan: "Neither East nor West--Islamic Republic?"

[Answer] This is a slogan that comes from the hearts of the people; it has an ideological basis as well as being based on the bitter experiences our nation has suffered during the past 50 years. Our country does not, under any circumstances, wish to slip toward the East or the West, and could not--and does not wish to--have any dependence on any of the superpowers, and wishes to continue on its own way independently, while relying on its unlimited strength and on Almighty God. But this slogan has a [word indistinct] aspect, too. It does not have only a [word indistinct] aspect, when we say: Neither East nor West. It is a (?question) of the Islamic Republic, finally. It means our people want to establish a new system of values, independent of East and West, in their own country; to expand it and under the all-round cover of this new system of values--which stems from ideology, Islam--to continue their own way; organize their lives; organize their relations with other countries, nations and liberation movements. Both the [words indistinct] aspects should be considered together; it is not only a question of negative balance, as I said.

[Question] What changes will you be making in embassies or representative offices of the Islamic Republic abroad, concerning fundamental foreign policies?

[Answer] That is two issues. One regards the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, internally which (?I previously) mentioned. The ministry is disorganized because of what has happened to it over the past 2 years; it seems that the various units are not working in harmony. One of our greatest aims is to create a united and coordinated organization inside the ministry, by making use of devoted people, specialists and others devoted and faithful to the revolution. This is what we should do at ministerial level, internally.

Of course, other plans are to be implemented at the ministerial level--God willing--with the cooperation of the brothers and sisters who work here, namely, forming a department called (?projects) and plans. The essence of information and research that is carried out in the ministry [words indistinct], considering the fact that a committee or a unit will be there which will determine the basis of the foreign policy from an ideological [words indistinct], and the principle of rule of theocracy, it would try to show creativity in the making of foreign policy, based on information received, to prepare the plans [words indistinct] so that maybe we could compensate for 2 years of [word indistinct] and work slow downs, that we could actively [words indistinct] and move in the direction of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Regarding Iran's representations abroad, there are two issues: One is that these embassies --as other organs--were organized for aims that have, since the revolution, made a 180-degree turn, naturally. This necessitates that we alter the (?makings) of these embassies, the (?relations) that govern them and even their appearance. This alteration is gradually happening to (?all) the ministries, internally. The second issue is that our embassies should be revalued depending on what priority we assign to certain countries [words indistinct]. For example, during the previous regime the greatest priority was given to relations with the United States, European countries like Britain, Germany and others. We know that such priorities do not exist for us; in accordance with the new (?aims) that we have achieved in the revolution, and which have arisen from the revolution, we shall naturally give priority to Islamic countries, Middle East countries, and those countries who are oppressed, who have oppressed nations. In proportion to the importance that we shall attach to these countries, we should sit and reappraise how far the (?makings) of our embassies, the number of their staff [words indistinct] meet our aims, so that we could start our work on that basis. We shall move in the direction of reducing our embassy staffs in Western countries; we shall only have enough staff there to deal with the extensive student matters, and also other issues that are necessary to exist there. But, as I pointed out before--I shall repeat it--we shall concentrate our manpower on establishing deep communication between ourselves--our nation--and other Muslim nations, and we shall stop at nothing in order to achieve this, [words indistinct].

An issue that requires mention here is that of Jerusalem. We are now in the month of Ramadan. You know that the last [word indistinct] has been announced by the imam of the nation as the international day of Jerusalem; what we are saying is that our foreign policy has an unbreakable tie with [word indistinct] the struggle against Zionism in the region, and we shall consider this [words indistinct] in each of our political moves, and shall continue this anti-Zionist policy until the liberation of all the occupied land in dear Palestine and dear Jerusalem.

RELATIONS WITH ROK DOWNGRADED; DIPLOMATS EXPELLED

GF071531 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Jul 81

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman announced today that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to downgrade its relations with the Republic of South Korea to the charge d'affaires level, and that three diplomats of the South Korean Embassy in Tehran were undesired persons and must leave Iran within the next 48 hours.

The embassy will be staffed by three diplomats and nondiplomatic personnel. All remaining personnel must leave Iran within the next 2 weeks.

It is worth mentioning that the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in South Korea has, for some time, been at the level of charge d'affaires.

GUIDANCE MINISTRY CLOSES DOWN REUTER IN TEHRAN

LD071154 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jul 81

["Text" of 7 July statement by Islamic National Guidance Ministry on closing of REUTER's office in Tehran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Oh Muslim and revolutionary nation of Iran: The superpowers of East and West, Zionism, world exploitation and blasphemy control an overall majority of international news agencies and are cooperating with each other to deal blows to the world's oppressed nations. Imperialism's press agents and allies pour into these countries in the guise of reporters and, by publishing biased news and creating an adverse atmosphere, try to take steps in the interest of their masters.

After the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, press agencies, whose natures had become clear because of their support for the pagan regime of the Satan [the shah] poured into our Islamic homeland behind a disguise of deception and trickery. But by dispatching news that was far from the truth and by exaggerating, lying and employing trickery, they once again revealed their true nature, took advantage of the Islamic character of our nation and dispatched false news every day. Therefore AP and UP were closed down.

But another one of these agencies is the British press agency REUTER, which during the past month alone has dispatched biased and untrue reports on more than ten occasions and has not heeded the reminders of the authorities. Therefore, yesterday, 6 July 1981, this ministry decided to close down the said agency.

NURBAKHSH: BANKING POLICIES TO BE MODIFIED

LD062050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, Mr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, the governor of the Central Bank of Iran, attended a press conference in which he replied to questions by correspondents on topics such as our country's banking and monetary concerns.

Speaking on the role of the banking system in activating production projects he said: A regulation has been formulated on this on the basis of which in the very near future the Islamic banks, wherever there is a branch, will become a partner to the implementation of industrial and production projects under two systems: either by granting loans or participating in certain production investments.

The governor of the Central Bank added: The size of the bank's loan for production projects will be as high as 70 percent of the fixed investment for that project. This level could reach as high as 90 percent for half-completed projects. He said the level of loans to individuals will be as high as 5 million tomans, and to firms as high as 10 million tomans. Enormous facilities will be accorded to those with the problem of collateral and a bank guarantee and a draft with two signatures can be regarded as surety.

Elaborating on the issue of our country's banking system being in accordance with Islamic norms, the governor of the Central Bank said in the near future an information unit for the Islamic bank will be set up and on the basis of past experience in the performances of the interest-free loan funds and other Islamic credit institutions, preparations for the formation of an active Islamic banking system will be made.

On the question of inflation, he said the Central Bank will control the existing inflation through the money supply and the level of loans, and the government will control it through the establishment of a proper distribution system.

In conclusion, the governor of the Central Bank referred to the public's role in production investments and said the public should deposit their monies with maximum assurance in the country's banks, as they are all under the government's control.

TEHRAN LISTS OFFENSES OF IRANIANS EXECUTED 6-7 JUL

LD071256 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jul 81

[Excerpts] The Central News Bureau reports that by verdict of the Islamic Revolution Court of Qa'emshahr, four persons charged with active participation in confrontations initiated by pro-American groups, acting as leaders of the monafeqin-e khalq in this town, disarming guards, assualting people and taking part in the 4 May confrontations, were sentenced to death and the sentences were carried out this morning at dawn.

By verdict of the Islamic Revolution Court of Nowshahr and Chalus, confirmed by the Supreme Judicial Council Rahman Kia, alias Keyvan, son of Valyollah, and Manuchehr Tehrani, son of Asghar, both residents of Chalus and supporters of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq guerrillas, minority branch, and the pro-American group of Peykar, were charged with taking part in demonstrations and street confrontations in Gonbad, Siahkal, Langerud and Kordestan and intense activities against the Islamic Republic, were declared corrupters [mofsid], wagers of war against God [mohareb] and heretics, and were sentenced to death. The sentences were carried out last night.

PARS reports that two people were sentenced to death by verdict of the Islamic Revolution Court of Behshahr on the charge of acting against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The sentences were carried out this morning. According to this report, Fereydun Ra'isi, son of Allah Qoli, charged with active participation and intellectual leadership in the confederation of Iranian workers, Mazandaran branch, being the organization and communications officer of an organization with Islamic appearance but with Marxist and Maoist ideology, engaging in serious activities among workers to corrupt them and taking part in the recent confrontations in Rostamkolah, near Behshahr; and Y'aqub Yazdani, son of Hasan, who confessed to being a member of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq guerrillas, minority branch, charged with being, intellectually, a heretic [etedad-e fekri], taking an active part in conspiracies against the Islamic revolution to corrupt the thoughts of the Muslim people of the region, being one of the active and coordinating members and an intellectual leader of leftist groups in Behshahr and possessing a big sword and illegal publications discovered in the house of the above-mentioned person, taking part in confrontations and having poisonous beliefs, were declared sowers of corruption on earth [mofsid fil ardh] and being intellectual heretics and were sentenced to death. The same report indicates that because of their heresy the culprits' bodies will not be buried in Muslim cemeteries.

By verdict of the Islamic Revolution Court of Shiraz one of the members of the union of communiststrugglers group was sentenced to death and the sentenced was carried out yesterday evening.

PEYKAR GROUP ATTACKS REVOLUTION GUARDS VEHICLE

GF071446 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 6 Jul 81

[Text] A group of monafeqin and Peykarists today set a fire to a vehicle belonging to the welfare department of the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

The vehicle was attacked at S'adi gate and was set on fire with Molotov cocktails. Several of those responsible for the fire were arrested with the aid of the people.

SHIRAZ ISLAMIC COURT ISSUES VARIOUS SENTENCES

GF070542 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1830 GMT 6 Jul 81

[Announcement issued by the Shiraz Islamic Court--no date given]

[Text] In accordance with the court's decision, Farzaneh-e Habibzadeh, daughter of Hoseyn, charged with distributing subversive literature, has been sentenced to 3 months imprisonment. Nazila Karimi, daughter of Mohammad, has been sentenced to 3 months imprisonment for distributing subversive literature. Mas'ud-e Banavi, son of Mansur, accused of participating in clashes with other monafeqin [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and possessing a carpet knife, was given 15 years imprisonment. Jalal-e (Borhani), son of Safar, charged with participating in clashes with other monafeqin and wielding a carpet knife, has been sentenced to 2 years imprisonment and 50 lashes. Javad Karimpur, son of Jadid, charged with involvement in the clashes, has been detained for a few days. Gholam Reza Mohammadian, son of Nasrollah, has been sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for a few days and 1 year in prison. Bizhan-e Nirumand, son of Mohammad, charged with involvement in these clashes, has been acquitted.

MAJOR BLAZE BREAKS OUT SOUTH OF TEHRAN

GF071110 Paris AFP in English 1105 GMT 7 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 7 Jul (AFP)--Firemen today were fighting a major blaze in the warehouses of a trucking company just south of the Iranian capital here. There were no immediate reports of casualties, and the cause of the outbreak was not known.

Islamic security forces were keeping spectators away. A thick column of black smoke, visible for miles around, hung over the area.

BOMB DISCOVERED IN TEHRAN MOSQUE, DEFUSED

LD080142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jul 81

[Excerpt] PARS reports that last night a relatively powerful bomb was discovered and defused inside the Seyyed al-Shohada Mosque in Tehran. Those praying at the mosque escaped with their lives from this doomed conspiracy which was hatched by [word indistinct] groups subservient to Western imperialism. The official in charge of mobilization in that mosque said: The bomb was set to explode when the lights were turned off for mourning. But, fortunately, helped by the vigilant people, the bomb was discovered and defused by security personnel. He added: Near where the bomb was planted a note was found which said that the first one was a tragedy, the second one a catastrophe. This note is signed by the Path of the Workers.

GILAN DEPUTY SHOT IN 6 JUL ATTACK DIES OF WOUNDS

LD072228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the Gilan governor general's office announced this morning: Brother Nurani, the deputy responsible for development affairs in Gilan, who was the target of an assassination attempt while accompanying Brother Ansari, the governor general of Gilan, yesterday morning, was martyred this morning as a result of his injuries from being shot in the head. He joined the other martyrs of Shi'ism.

According to this report, the deputy, after being shot and receiving preliminary treatment in Rasht, was transferred by plane to Enqelab Hospital in Tehran yesterday afternoon; but due to the extent of his injuries treatment was fruitless.

According to this report, the pure body of Brother Nurani has been transferred to Rasht by plane for his funeral.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 561 ON LATEST FIGHTING

LD071738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jul 81

[Communique 561 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Some of the operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the situation at the battlefronts during the past 24 hours are brought to your attention as follows:

In the Abadan-Khuninshahr region, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened fire on Iraqi positions, destroying four mortars, seven ammunition dumps, two assembly centers, two machinegun emplacements, two squad trenches, one RPG-7 emplacement, three vehicles, one bulldozer and one observation post.

On another front in the same region, one cannon and two bulldozers of the Iraqi invaders were destroyed by the fire of our combatants; the brave personnel of the police also succeeded in destroying two RPG-7's and several enemy trenches and either killed or wounded about 12 Iraqi soldiers.

On the Abadan, Mahshahr, Darkhovin and As-Sulaymaniyah fronts, our forces opened fire on Iraqi artillery and mortar positions, destroying two enemy cannons, one bulldozer, one vehicle and one ammunition dump.

Yesterday, the city of Abadan came under sporadic enemy heavy weapon fire and suffered some damage.

Brave warriors of the navy destroyed one enemy mortar, one 50-mm machinegun and two RPG-7 emplacements in the occupied part of Khuninshahr.

In the Dezful region, the combative units of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran killed 15 Iraqi personnel and destroyed one personnel carrier, one machinegun, one ammunition dump and several squad trenches of the enemy. They also damaged one enemy tank.

In the 'Eyn Khosh region, the self-sacrificing forces of Islam, in a series of guerrilla operations, succeeded in destroying a tank, a 57-mm gun and several slit trenches and foxholes of the aggressors, killing about 50 enemy personnel.

Exchange of fire continued between the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the invading Iraqi Armed Forces in various regions in the west of the country. In the (Bajgiran) region, an advancing Iraqi unit came under intense artillery fire. Our forces destroyed one of their vehicles and killed about 40 Iraqi personnel and wounded 20 of them.

On the Chaghalvand and Charmian heights, warriors of the gendarmerie opened fire on Iraqi positions, destroying an enemy ammunition tent, an observation post and a mortar. Also, several enemy personnel were either killed or wounded.

Yesterday, several Iraqi planes violated the airspace of southern and western cities of our country, but the antiaircraft fire of our air defense units forced them to flee.

On 5 July, six combatants of the ground forces and one warrior of the gendarmerie were martyred on battlefronts in defense of the Islamic homeland of Iran and several were wounded.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

4 IRAQI SOLDIERS DEFECT TO IRAN 4-5 JUL

GF051658 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Jul 81

[Text] PARS reports that an Iraqi reserve officer gave himself up today to officials of the Government of the Islamic Republic and asked for political asylum.

This is the fourth Iraqi military person since yesterday to ask for asylum in the Islamic Republic.

APPEAL ISSUED FOR TRUCK DRIVERS' SERVICES

LD060322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jul 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, the country's economic mobilization transport coordinating committee announced in a statement today that any truck driver willing to participate in transportation of government goods from the southern ports to interior destinations during the month of Ramadan would be given the required tires at the price paid by the government.

BRIEFS

OIL FOR COLOMBIA--According to the Central News Bureau, following talks between the Colombian minister of energy and mining, the Iranian acting oil minister and the supervisor of the international affairs of the NIOC, the two countries reached a fundamental [osuli] agreement for the sale of Iranian oil to Colombia. On the basis of this report, the Colombian minister of energy and mining, who had come to our country to discuss the expansion of economic and trade relations between Iran and Colombia, including the purchase of oil, left Tehran today. At the end of his 3-day visit to Tehran, he told our reporter: We came to Iran with the hope of discussing an oil purchase. We reached some positive conclusions during our discussions with the authorities of the Iranian Oil Ministry, and there is a high probability that in the near future an agreement to purchase oil will be signed between Colombia and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [Excerpt] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jun 81 LD]